

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CONAKR 01554 021422Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 PC-04 AID-20 NIC-01 NEA-10

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-19 SCA-01 SCS-03 DRC-01 /190 W

----- 122821

R 011430Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9158

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1554

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR PINS GV SG IV

SUBJECT : WAR OF WORDS CONTINUES

1. THERE HAS BEEN NO SLOW DOWN IN THE PACE OF SEKOU TOURE'S OFFENSIVE AGAINST HIS NEIGHBORS, PRESIDENTS HOUPHOUET AND SENGHOR, AND AGAINST FGUNCE, THE FRG, ISRAEL, AND PORTUGAL, THE POWERS HE BELIEVES ARE WORKING WITH THEM TO OVERTHROW HIM. AFTER SENDING A MESSAGE EXPLAINING HIS CASE AND APPEALING FOR SUPPORT TO THE CHIEFS OF STATE OF ALL OAU MEMBER COUNTRIES, TOURE HAD HIS PRIME MINISTER CABLE A SIMILAR MESSAGE TO THE PARTY CHIEFS OF FREINDLY "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES. ON SEPTEMBER 27 SOME RESIDENT AFRICAN, "SOCIAOSST" AND ARAB CHIEFS OF MISSION WERE CONVOKED IN SEPARATE GROUPS BY THE
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CONAKR 01554 021422Z

PRIME MINISTER, WHO MADE AN ADDITIONAL APPEAL TO THEM FOR

MORAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT IN GUINEA' CURRENT STRUGGLE. ONE ARAB WHO ATTENDED SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD ALSO ASKED FOR ARAB SUPPORT IN GUINEA'S COMPLAINT AGAINST HOUPHOUET AND SENGHOR BEFORE THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL.

2. MASS MEETINGS CONTINUE TO BE STAGED TO AROUSE POPULAR SUPPORT. ON SEPTEMBER 27 A "MILITARY MARCH" WAS HELD AT WHICH BANNERS DENOUNCING TRAITORS AND "AMBITIOUS AND BOUGHT OFFICERS" WERE DISPLAYED AND THE PARTICIPATING MILITIA CRIED THE NOW USUAL "DOWN WITH SENGHOR" AND "DOWN WITH HOUPHOUET". AT THE 10TH GUINEAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONGRESS HELD ON THE 28 AND 29, TOURE MADE FEW REFERENCES TO HIS SECURITY PROBLEMS. IN HIS CLOSING ADDRESS HE NOTED THAT HIS ENEMIES HAD HOPED TO OVERTHROW HIM BEFORE THE CONGRESS. THE PARTICIPANTS MADE THE USUAL RITUALISTIC DENUNCIATIONS AND PASSED RESOLUTIONS SUPPORTING THE "PEOPLE" AGAINST SENGHOR AND HOUPHOUET AND URGING MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ALLIANCES BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA AND GUINEA BISSAU. A FURTHER RALLY OF GUINEAN YOUTH GROUPS WAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 30 AT WHICH TOURE TRIED TO KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM BY CLAIMING HIS REGIME HAD DONE MORE FOR "THE PEOPLE" THAN EITHER SENGHOR'S OR HOUPHOUET'S REGIME.

3. A NEW FACTOR ABOUT WHICH THE EMBASSY HAS JUST LEARNED WAS PROVIDED BY A RESIDENT AMERICAN MISSIONARY. ACCORDING TO THIS GENTLEMAN, SLIPS OF PAPER WITH ANTI-TOURE SLOGANS HAVE BEEN INSERTED, PROBABLY IN CONAKRY, INTO THE ENVELOPES CARRYING MAGAZINES TO HIS MISSIONARY ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVES IN THE INTERIOR. THE SLIPS, WHICH ARE STAMPED "NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF GUINEA" DENOUNCE SEKOU TOURE AND CALL ON THE PEOPLE TO ACT TO OVERTHROW HIM. (THE MISSIONARY WAS ADVISED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS TO TURN THE SLIPS IN TO THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR WITH A PROTEST.) IT IS HARD TO SAY WHETHER THEY ARE THE WORK OF GENUINE DISSIDENTS OR AN ATTEMPT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVOKE THE EXPULSION OF THE MISSIONARIES.

4. BARRING UNUSUAL DEVELOPMENTS, THE PRESENT WAR OF WORDS WILL PROBABLY END LIKE PREVIOUS CONFLICTS OF THIS NATURE, I.E., A TRUCE ARRANGED BY THIRD-PARTY AFRICAN LEADERS. IN ADDITION TO ANY INTERNAL OPPOSITION, THE UNUSUAL COULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CONAKR 01554 021422Z

PROVIDED BY THE PORTUGUESE WHO HAVE YET TO REACT EFFECTIVELY AGAINST THE PAIGC AND GUINEA FOLLOWING THE PAIGC'S INCREASED ANTI-AVIATION CAPABILITY AND THEIR DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.
HAVERKAMP

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NNN

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Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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